

wherein the composite consists of one of a scrim, a lattice and a netting, the one of the scrim, the lattice and the netting being covered on both sides by a nonwoven fabric;

wherein the one of the scrim, the lattice and the netting is made of thermoplastic continuous-filaments having a mesh, the mesh having points of contact and filament crossing points in longitudinal and transverse directions;

wherein the mesh has a mesh size of 0.01 to 9 cm<sup>2</sup>;

wherein the continuous filaments are 150 to 2000 µm thick and are thermally fused to each other at their points of contact;

wherein the filament crossing points in the longitudinal and transverse directions are not less distant from each other than 0.10 cm; and

wherein the nonwoven fabric layer has one of repeating fold-shaped elevations and repeating wave-shaped elevations.

20. (Amended) A method for manufacturing a three-dimensionally structured fibrous web comprising the following steps:

covering one of at least one lattice layer, at least one scrim layer and at least one netting layer with a nonwoven fabric layer on both sides, each layer of the one of the at least one lattice layer, the at least one scrim layer and the at least one netting layer weighing 3 to 300 g/m<sup>2</sup>, the one of the at least one lattice layer, the at least one scrim layer and the at least one netting layer being made of plastic continuous filaments having a mesh, the mesh having filament crossing points and having a mesh size of 0.01 to 9 cm<sup>2</sup> and being biaxially stretched, a distance of adjacent ones of the filament crossing points being not less than 0.10 cm;

bonding the one of the at least one lattice layer, the at least one scrim layer and the at least one netting layer with the nonwoven fabric layer on both sides in continuous fashion using a laminating technique;

subjecting the one of the at least one lattice layer, the at least one scrim layer and the at least one netting layer with the nonwoven fabric layer on both sides which has been bonded to one of a thermal embossing-calendering and an ultrasound calendering; and

subsequently subjecting the one of the at least one lattice layer, the at least one scrim layer and the at least one netting layer with the nonwoven fabric layer on both sides which was subjected to the one of the thermal embossing-calendering and the

ultrasound calendering to a shrinking process at a temperature which lies between a softening and melting range of a material of the one of the at least one lattice layer, the at least one scrim layer and the at least one netting layer.

21. (Amended) The method according to claim 20, further comprising the steps of:

covering at least one layer of the one of the at least one lattice layer, the at least one scrim layer and the at least one netting layer on one of one side and both sides with an unbonded nonwoven, the at least one layer of the one of the at least one lattice layer, the at least one scrim layer and the at least one netting layer having a shrinkable component, the shrinkable component having a melting point, the unbonded nonwoven being made up at least partly of bicomponent fibers having a high- and a low-melting component, the low-melting component having a melting point that is not higher than the melting point of the shrinkable component;

subjecting the at least one layer of the one of the at least one lattice layer, the at least one scrim layer and the at least one netting layer covered on the one of one side and both sides with the unbonded nonwoven to one of a thermal embossing-calendering and an ultrasound calendering; and

subsequently carrying out a shrinking of the at least one layer of the one of the at least one lattice layer, the at least one scrim layer and the at least one netting layer covered on the one of one side and both sides with the unbonded nonwoven which was subjected to the one of the thermal embossing-calendering and the ultrasound calendering, the shrinking being carried out as a result of the influence of heat or using water vapor.

## **REMARKS**

### **I. Introduction**

Claims 16 to 25 are currently pending in this application. In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all of the presently pending claims are allowable, and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Applicants note with appreciation the acknowledgment of the claim for foreign priority and the indication that all of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received.